

REMARKS

Applicant submits this Amendment in response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2010. Reconsideration of the subject application as amended herein is respectfully requested.

Claims 55-78 are pending in this case; of these, claims 55 and 66 are independent. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 55-78 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. However, at the same time the Examiner merely objected to dependent claims 61 and 72 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, indicating that they contain allowable subject matter and that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.¹

In this amendment, applicant has amended independent claims 55 and 66 as suggested by the Examiner, by adding thereto the limitations of dependent claims 61 and 72, respectively; thus, the rejection of independent claims 55 and 66 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, has been rendered moot. Dependent claims 61 and 72

¹ Applicant therefore assumes that claims 61 and 72 have *not* been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, and that the Examiner intended the rejection to apply only to claims 55-60, 62-71 and 73-78.

have been cancelled, and the dependencies thereon of dependent claims 62 and 73, respectively, have been adjusted accordingly; in addition, conforming amendments have been made in dependent claims 59 and 70, and typographical errors have been corrected in claims 60 and 71, so as to properly display the numerals in the chemical formula for ferric sulphate as subscripts.

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced, and that no additional filing fees are necessitated by the claim amendments made herein, since neither the number of independent claims, nor the overall total number of claims, exceeds the highest number for which payment was made upon the initial filing of this case. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional claims fees which may be required to the Deposit Account of undersigned counsel. No. 07-1730.

Applicant has responded herein to the points raised by the Examiner in the Office Action, and applicant has amended the claims in an earnest effort to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, further favorable action in connection with this patent application is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to

